

Government of the District of Columbia
Executive Office of the Mayor



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Mayor Invites City to Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month

(Washington, DC) Today, Mayor Anthony A. Williams declared September 15 to October 15 Hispanic Heritage Month in the District of Columbia.

“Hispanic Heritage Month in the District provides us with opportunities to convey deep appreciation to our Latino community for their great contributions to our society and to pay tribute to the city’s diversity,” said Mayor Williams.

“This month, we celebrate the talents, culture and spirit of the very diverse Latino community in our city and region, which enrich the livelihood of Washington, DC every day,” said Gustavo Velasquez, Director of the Mayor’s Office on Latino Affairs (OLA).

According to OLA, the 2000 census count for the District’s Latinos was 51,058, an increase of 56 percent over 1990 census data. Even though the number of DC children decreased between 1990 and 2000 by 3 percent, the number of Latino children grew by 66 percent. The US Census Bureau estimates that the Latino population in the District will reach at least 62,000 by 2015.

To commemorate Hispanic Heritage Month, Mayor Williams will kick off “Fiesta DC 2004,” the Hispanic Heritage Festival, which will take place on October 10th, at Cardozo High School, beginning at 10 am. For more information about Fiesta DC 2004 and other events being held during Hispanic Heritage Month, as well as general information on Latinos in DC, visit www.ola.dc.gov.

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